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THE INTENSE HEAT OF THE
A Spot Bright and Fragrant with
of Many Flowers—The Macon.
A Lee County Man Killed

MACON, Ga., July 14.—[Special.]
tively few Maconites are aware that
cat the gates of the city, in the quiet
of lovely Vineville, is a little bit of
brightened and perfumed with the
fragrance of a thousand flowers.

Accepting a seat with Mr. D. B. E.
today, your correspondent rode out
his hour's quiet enjoyment. The at-
tensely hot down in the level beneath
the town, but the moment we climbed
hills we were saluted by the daisies
from the west that delight to special-
ize in the shrubs and flowers of Vineville.

Entering the yard a charming scene

tured the reportorial vision. The water is divided into shallow pools, deeply set in a huge bonnet of shrubs and flowers. There were hills, valleys, tube roots, tropical plants of various actions, and a greenish surface of the water, the sweet pot plants, their arid, stony blossoms, and a half-dozen of the most long name, but more familiarly known water lettuce.

The thick, fleshy leaves float on the water, and the bases of the leaves are enlarged into air bladders. The roots remain submerged, making no attempt to hold the earth. The water is the rivers of southern Florida, this plant such masses that it obstructs navigation, has to be cleared away, and can be introduced, of which Mr. Woodruff specimens. It has grown to the height of four feet, forming a dense mat of four feet across, during the present season. The beautifully variegated colors, designed by Mr. Woodruff, are in the designs, a five pointed star and a circle that gleaming in parti-colored spots.

Inside the cosy parlor a sweet, thrilling strain of purest melody, like wild bird in the midst of her bow-wow, not until afterwards that the reporter who has fair share of the music.

The asters are just bewitching. Even of the rainbow is duplicated among queenly blossoms, from purest white to deepest, criminally red.

The roses have faded somewhat, but are many beautiful ones yet blooming in the yard is a mass of *Salsola* could not be a front bush, but from the garden and the slender *papyrus* from the bank Nile.

Passing through the gate, we enter the yard, which is a wilderness of *Woodruff* has a rare white blossom, that is a native of the Rocky mountains India rubber tree ten feet high, thick, elastic, green, and rough bark and branches. Everywhere the least is made, the sticky white gum exudes

Beyond is a wonderful sight. The striking rows of the white roses, just starting into bloom. The laden air was heavy with their delicate perfume.

Begonias, cacti, verbenas, ferns, petunias, a thousand and one plants with many beautiful Latin names, were on display. Mr. Woodruff already has his plants going for his exhibition at the state fair.

We passed through the propagating house, where we encountered the dripping brooks and living streams of perspiration falling down our backs, and we decided to equal to a Turkish bath.

Roses and cypress hedges, just beginning to bloom, occupy a large space in the rear of the house, and the energetic Dame, who has one of the flowers, has encroached considerably on the watermelon patch. This has been an annual boast of the sweet little thing, referred to, the daughter of the house, Mr. Mattie Woodruff.

Verbenas, she pointed with ninety-nine thirty pounders that she had

this year, and the first fruits of this paid gathered today to help brighten the festive holiday.

It was with lingering steps and longing that the news man turned his back to the charming spot, and all the way back to the kept mentally repeating some of the names of the names, so that he would be able to write them down.

It will be sufficient to say that there is a great spot around Macon than this year grounds, and the plants and flowers of their name is legion.

NEW IMPROVEMENTS.

The Work of Brier and Mortar and Mer and Saw.

MACON, Ga., July 14.—[Special.]—The tractor for the roofing and inside finishing of the new United States courthouse is busy city looking after his part of the business.

Mike Day is putting up a big brick sta-

The old Grace office has been torn down
make room for the Telegraph's new building
on Cherry street.

THE MEAT.

It Crawls Up to Nine-Nine
Lodges.

Macon, Ga., July 14.—[Special.]—There has been the hottest of a summer. Close heavy and hot as blazes. Business is suspended, and men congregate on the corners and bet on the thermometer. The Hogg's drug store the mercury stood at about noon, and the business is suspended. It registered 103° in the shade. Macon was as hot as blazes. W. H. J. The thermometer was hung out in the open air. At one o'clock the mercury crept up to 104°. All efforts to get it to descend fruitless.

There are no reports of sunstroke, it has been hot enough for anything.

WHERE RED LIQUOR RULES.

A Town Pretty Well Kicked Against Prohibitionists.

MACON, Ga., July 14.—[Special.]—"one that will take the trouble to explain the situation," a well known broker here, "can find it with more ease than a swim showing. Away out in Nebraska is a town of two hundred inhabitants, there are twelve saloons, twelve saloon keepers and one pharmacist. I found a peddler and one philosopher. I found a lawyer, and if you will go around and investigate you will find it just as I say." The reporter was contented with the facts in the case, will leave it to those with more leisure to t t up.

...DOTS AND DASHES.

Some Spicy Specials Served in Short

tenness.

MACON, Ga., July 14. — (Special.) — Mr. Nelson has been lying at the point of death for several weeks at the residence of Mr. J. W. Williams, Huntsville, whose leg was seen severed at the right ear on the East Tennessee. It is getting able to go about 25 miles a day.

MACON, Ga., July 14. — (Special.) — Mr. R. W. Wade, who has been very ill with typhoid fever, is recovering.

MACON, Ga., July 14. — (Special.) — A forty-one pound watermelon was received today today sent by Mr. Joseph Barnes, of Riceville, Tenn. It is the largest one of the season.

MACON, Ga., July 14. — (Special.) — Fuel, the furniture and the stock on a wagon that was owned by Mr. J. W. Clarke, who had pawned some furniture and other goods on a credit, to Blountville, Tenn. broke.

MACON, Ga., July 14. — (Special.) — Killed Him Instantly.

MACON, Ga., July 14. — (Special.) — Mr. C. Jones was in the city today, and reported that he had fought in Lee county. Two negroes, Ed. Martin's place fell out about a trifle in the city, and Jim Jones, who was at Bill Adams' place, killed him with a knife. Bill dodged the blow and ran to the square in two, killing him instant.

Mr. Jones left.

Stole the Jewelry.

MACON, Ga., July 14.—[Special.]—Tonight while the family of Mr. T. C. Burke were supper, someone came, evidently knowing this, forced the front of the house through the hill and stole a jewelry case containing jewelry.

**The Penitentiary Committee
Examining Witnesses.**

TESTIMONY OF CAPTAIN T. J. JAMES

What Was Developed by the Sub-Committee Yesterday Afternoon—The Allegations in Huff's Convict Lease Act.

Colonel Huff, chairman of the sub-committee on penitentiaries, has determined to materially change and alter his penitentiary bill.

It will be remembered that the bill was introduced in the house some time ago, and was withdrawn in order that it might be brought back with amendments.

THE BILL AS ALTERED.

pening there, reporting the results to the principal physician, and to advise him to the governor." Colonel Huff does recognize both three camps, and his position is that under the bill as it stands, there shall be only two. These two men shall be at each of the three camps.

It further provides for a board of paid experts to consist of five members, one of whom shall be originally drawn, supplemented by the addition of the principal keeper and principal physician. The board of experts shall be an advisory board to the governor and is modelled after boards in other states.

The bill as changed requires the lesser traveling expense for the principal keeper and principal physician, as required by the bill passed in 1876. Now the state pays the expense of the principal physician. The bill seeks to place the expense where it was originally intended to be.

The last addition makes it obligatory on the principal physician to assist in the visit each camp once every month, and requires these officers to start at different times. The first officer will start on the fifteenth of the month, thus giving each camp the benefit of two visits each month from the experts.

The investigating committee met again Tuesday afternoon at 2-30 p.m., at which time was present Sam W. Terrell, chairman of the committee, and there was present the usual crop of spectators.

THE TESTIMONY OF CAPTAIN JAMES.

The first witness examined was Captain J. James, owner of the "Old Town camp," where were W. C. Grant and his associates who has been so severely testified against by the sides. Captain James, in answer to my questions, said that he bought one-fourth interest in Grand Central camp from the convicts turned over to him was about 125, and that originally they were all worked on "company" plan. Since then the convicts had increased to about 600, and now the section of fourteen, who were still at the "Old Town camp," the rest were engaged in different parts of the state, working, however, under most of the same conditions as in different parts of the state. Captain James asked to go.

HE INFORMED WHAT OTHERS HAD SAID to him about the convict lease. The committee told him that they would give him any information as to what any other lessee stated in regard to any of the points mentioned above, if he would give him the entire testimony. They were not at home.

He was asked about one Sally Howard,

once for his family; and that when she was engaged she slept sometimes away from the convict house in the other house. In reply to a question of Mat Vincent, a female convict, whether she was allowed to go off six days from camp as a trusty, he said that she was not; that she made an attempt to run away once, but was not given much liberty in consequence.

He stated that Dr. Houk was the doctor of the camp, and also the commissary; that he was paid \$800 per month, he (James) paid him the salary. He said that he was an efficient man. When he started the camp at Waukegan, Houk was carried along for the purpose of pronouncing an opinion as to the desirability of erecting a penitentiary at Waukegan, and that if Houk recommended the place, a camp might be located.

JAMES'S ESTIMATE OF SMITH.

THAT THE

But J. E. Smith was, wasn't he rather considered the bully of the county. He replied that it was not, but as far as he was concerned, he considered him an easy sort of man. Never heard of him being connected with the burning of a negro in the stake in Jefferson county, though he knew what had happened generally of the occurrence. When asked if he had any knowledge of Smith's conduct as whipping boss was reported to him, he said that he immediately discharged him, by his own report, he knew that he had whipped men in the county, but he was not whipping. Some of the men reported by Smith as being whipped had never been whipped before. When Smith was discharged from his place as whipping boss he was getting forty dollars per month. He was afterwards

EMPLOYED AS A GUARD, and was still in his employ in that capacity. He did not get as much now as he formerly did. As for the cutting of the ears, he testified a few days before, James declared that a man had been one of the worst convicts at the pump, that he was sassy and impudent, and he was the one that he was given light work in the shop, but

In the fields as a punishment for bad conduct. In the case of Reagan's so-called bad treatment was brought upon him by his own conduct.

HOW CONVICTS FARE.

Witnesses stated that convicts who did good work and behaved themselves fared better than those who did not. It was said that they were given food and clothing as they pleased where. Some were allowed to eat with the guards. In the case of negroes they were not permitted to eat, but were given bread and things and other necessities. Witnesses stated that Jackson, the mill president, in August, ate with the guards. As to the ill treatment of Peter Jackson, witness said he had never heard any one besides Houk say that Peter Jackson's conduct was due to his treatment; that Houk only thought so, and had no positive knowledge of the fact.

A BIT OF PERSONAL HISTORY.

James stated that he had seen a whipping box for Grant, Alexander & Co. for six or seven years. Was with them when they made this report that certain camps be abolished; that they think camps so recommended were ever abolished.

When asked how he escaped from him since he had been a bond man, the man replied that ten would have paid for the number; but the four or five had been paid for, and that one pair for had been paid, and the state had not repaid the money.

AN OPINION AS TO FREE LABOR.

Witness was asked some questions as to the bearing of his plant that had been secured as to the convict labor, but he could not give any definite figure. He declared that if he was paid for what he had in the business, he would sell out to the state.

Witness stated that free labor could be no consequence when the convict labor was near, because as they thought, the free laborers would not work as hard as the convict labor, and he was frightened into being by telling them that convict labor was plentiful in their positions. He said he had "only about a dozen convicts at present at the 'Old Tom,' " that Old Tom was still headquarters for "Company No. 1." The work of the convicts for the place also; planted for about 200 acres of corn and had about 400 acres in cornfields without the four or five could support themselves.

When asked, "TO GIVE UP THE NO ACCOUNT."
The old and feeble, sick, lame, halt and blind,
expressed that he would give them up, that he
did not regard them as "valuable," except in cer-
tain cases. As for the women and children,
he somewhat hesitated, and declared as other
men had declared, that the young convicts
were very good. Witness stated that
the convicts were preached to regularly every
day except when they were working on
railroads, and in reply to a question of Colonel

